

tion records, which we have been considering, and which it is to be noted have been and are now in the custody of officials not at all partial to the cause of the contestants, and therefore not at all likely to alter, if capable of so doing, anything in their favor.

Glancing briefly at the evidence as bearing on other aspects of the case, we come to the First (1) Legislative District, composed of the first seven (7) wards. We find throughout this district, in every ward thereof, and nearly every precinct, riot, disorder, and bloodshed, many brutal assaults and general intimidation of voters, particularly colored. The Police gave no protection at all and generally aided the rioters. Repeating, ballot box stuffing also prevailed largely. All these facts are proven by large numbers of witnesses, some of them by respondents, witnesses.

In the second district we have not so much violence. Quiet fraud, not less effective, is the method here adopted. Nevertheless, in the 8th, 9th and 11th wards, we find the monotony broken by several assaults, in which the Police play the part of amused spectators or active champions of violence.

In the third district, we find that in the 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th and 18th wards rioting, disorder and intimidation of voters was almost universal. The police everywhere failed in their duty, and (most notably at the 1st precinct of the 18th ward, and the 1st precinct of the 16th ward,) took an active part with rioters, and sometimes lead them in their attacks on voters, particularly colored.

Briefly summing up, we find in every ward, and in nearly every precinct of the City of Baltimore, fraud, violence or intimidation, prevailing to an unprecedented extent, that a very large proportion of the judges and clerks were in State and city employ, and dependent for their living upon carrying the election for the respondents, that very many of the judges and clerks, particularly those appointed between the Municipal and State election, were corrupt and utterly unfitted for the position; that many returns of elections were not written or signed, that residences of voters were not noted on the lists of qualified voters, and often these lists were not used at all; that challengers were prohibited, and the right to witness the count of ballots denied; that boxes for rejected ballots were not used; and finally, that not one single one of the ten (10) or fifteen (15) requirements, which the law of Baltimore makes essential to the validity of elections, has been generally, or even in any considerable degree, observed in any instance.

It is insisted, therefore, that by reason of these fatal legal informalities, as well as by reason of the fraud, violence and intimidation generally prevailing, and incontestably estab